

**FIRE INVESTIGATOR I**  
**STUDY GUIDE**

A written examination for the class of **FIRE INVESTIGATOR I** to be administered in **JEFFERSON FPD** on **JUNE 30, 2010**, will consist of approximately 100 multiple-choice questions. The examination will test your knowledge in the following subject areas:

<b>SUBJECT AREA/KNOWLEDGE</b>	<b>APPROXIMATE % OF EXAM</b>
<b>FIRE AND SAFETY HAZARDS</b>  Knowledge of the factors which constitute ordinary or special fire hazards, including any material, condition, or act which may contribute to the start of fire or increase the extent or severity of the fire; and safety practices and procedures sufficient to identify the causes or conditions that result in fire department accidents, injuries, or death; and to train subordinates in safety.	15.0%
<b>FIRE INVESTIGATION</b>  Knowledge of the procedures for conducting a fire investigation and for determining the cause of a fire, including deciding what may be considered unusual at a fire scene; char and burn patterns; factors affecting fire spread; determination of the point of origin and probable cause of a fire; reconstruction of the fire scene; interview and interrogation procedures; law enforcement procedures related to fire investigations; and collection of evidence, including fire scene photography.	34.0%
<b>FIRE CHEMISTRY</b>  Knowledge of the chemistry of fire, including ignition temperatures and properties of flammable and combustible materials, flame and smoke spread, and products of combustion.	18.0%
<b>FIRE RECORDS, REPORTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE</b>  Knowledge of effective records-keeping practices, including preparation, and content; and knowledge of effective report preparation procedures, including the compilation, analysis, and organization of data into an effective written format for reports or official correspondence, including completing necessary sketches and diagrams in order to document investigation procedures.	15.0%

SUBJECT AREA/KNOWLEDGE	APPROXIMATE % OF EXAM
<b>PUBLIC FIRE EDUCATION</b>  Knowledge of the principles of public fire education needed to inform the public about fire safety and hazards which may increase the occurrence of fire; conducting a fire education program; and public speaking.	10.0%
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b>  Knowledge of accepted public relations practices in order to interact with the public in various situations including code enforcement, or public fire education activities.	8.0%

### **REFERENCE LIST**

While the entire list of reference material will be useful to you in your preparation for the upcoming examination, the **majority** of test questions are sourced from those references listed under the Primary List.

### **PRIMARY REFERENCE MATERIAL**

#### **A)/ FIRE**

##### **PROTECTION PUBLICATIONS (Training Manuals):**

Essentials of Firefighting, 4th ed., 1998.  
Introduction to Fire Origin and Cause, 3rd ed., 2005.  
Fire and Life Safety Educator, 2nd ed., 1997.  
Fire Inspection and Code Enforcement, 6th ed., 1998.

**KIRK'S FIRE INVESTIGATION**, Brady, A Prentice-Hall Division, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 07632, 5th ed., 2002.

**FIRE PROTECTION HANDBOOK**, NFPA, 19th ed., 2003.

**EFFECTIVE SUPERVISORY PRACTICES**, International City Management Association (ICMA), 1120 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, 4th ed., 2005.

**NOTE:** Obtain through LSU Firemen Training Program or IFSTA Fire Protection Publications.

**NFPA INSPECTION MANUAL**, NFPA, 7th ed., 1994.

**BUSINESS COMMUNICATION**, Ruch, William V. and Crawford, Maurice L., Macmillan Publishing Co., 866 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022, 1991.

The local civil service board should make this study guide available to all applicants in whatever manner the board deems appropriate.

While there are no provisions requiring this office to provide study guides for any competitive or promotional examinations, such material will be provided as a service to assist applicants in preparing for an examination. The State Examiner's office has no control whatsoever over the local availability of reference material (mentioned in the study guides), nor do we feel constrained to limit examination questions to only that material which is available locally. Examination content, weighting of subject areas, and length of examination, may vary with each administration of an examination to reflect any updated job analysis information. Percentages and numerical estimations are provided as approximations.